



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08203.0005-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
John BUTLER et al.) Group Art Unit: 3733
)
Application No.: 10/635,017) Examiner: A. Ramana
)
Filed: August 6, 2003)
) Confirmation No.: 7577
For: WOUND RETRACTOR)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form PTO/SB/08.

Applicants are not required to provide copies of the listed U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications. Copies of the listed non-U.S. patent documents: WO 01/91652, WO 02/34108, WO 03/026512, WO 03/103548, WO 2004/026153, WO 2004030547, WO 2005/009257, SU 1342485, JP 2001-61850, and JP 2004-195037, are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: July 28, 2006

By: Elizabeth M. Burke; Reg. No. 38,758
for Roland G. McAndrews
Reg. No. 41,450

JUL 28 2006

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

Complete if Known

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

2

Application Number	10/635,017
Filing Date	August 6, 2003
First Named Inventor	John Butler
Art Unit	3733
Examiner Name	A. Ramana
Attorney Docket Number	08203.0005-03

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-3,253,594	05/1966	Matthews et al.	
		US-5,738,628	04/1998	Sierocuk et al.	
		US-5,916,232	06/1999	Hart	
		US-5,994,450	11/1999	Pearce	
		US-6,059,816	05/2000	Moenning	
		US-6,171,282	01/2001	Ragsdale	
		US-6,319,246	11/2001	de la Torre et al.	
		US-6,382,211	05/2002	Crook	
		US-6,814,700	11/2004	Mueller et al.	
		US-6,840,951	01/2005	de la Torre et al.	
		US-6,846,287	01/2005	Bonadio et al.	
		US-6,884,253	04/2005	McFarlane	
		US-2001/0037053 A1	11/2001	Bonadio et al.	
		US-2001/0039430 A1	11/2001	Dubrul et al.	
		US-2004/0049100 A1	03/2004	Butler et al.	
		US-2004/0073090 A1	04/2004	Butler et al.	
		US-2004/0092796 A1	05/2004	Butler et al.	
		US-2004/0143158 A1	07/2004	Hart et al.	
		US-2004/0215063 A1	10/2004	Bonadio et al.	
		US-2005/0020884 A1	01/2005	Heart et al.	
		US-2005/0090716 A1	04/2005	Bonadio et al.	
		US-2005/0090717 A1	04/2005	Bonadio et al.	
		US-2005/0148823 A1	07/2005	Vaugh et al.	
		US-2005/0240082 A1	10/2005	Bonadio et al.	

Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 01/91652	12/2001	PCT		
		WO 02/34108 A2	05/2002	PCT		
		WO 03/026512 A1	04/2003	PCT		
		WO 03/103548 A1	12/2003	PCT		
		WO 2004/026153 A1	04/2004	PCT		

[illegible]

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.